

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 10-13, 15, and 19-23 are pending in the present application, and Claims 1, 10, 19, 20, 22, and 23 having been amended. Support for the amendments to Claims 1, 10, 19, 20, 22, and 23 is found, for example, in Applicant's Fig. 2 and its corresponding description in the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-6, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 19-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kakutani (U.S. Patent No. 6,817,794) in view of Ogura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,608,494, hereinafter Ogura); and Claims 2 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kakutani in view of Ogura, and further in view of Yoshino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,944,031, hereinafter Yoshino).

With respect to the rejection of Claim 1 as unpatentable of Kakutani and Ogura, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to Claim 1 overcomes this ground of rejection. Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,

an image forming part configured to carry out an image formation by recording image data amounting to one page on a plurality of the substitute recording media such that each of the plurality of the substitute recording media has one of a plurality of parts forming the image data amounting to one page.

Kakutani and Ogura, taken alone or in proper combination, do not disclose or suggest at least these elements of amended Claim 1.

It is noted that the amended claims are similar to the claims of related application 11/396,685.

According to Kakutani, when "the paper size and paper type other than that stored in the tray of the printer is specified by the printing job data, through registration to the

alternative table an alternative printing is performed on the papers stored in a predetermined tray. Even in the case where there is no paper of a specified size and type the next time on, the printer does not become in the paper disagreement error condition, and the printing processing is executed.”¹

However, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Kakutani that when the alternative printing is performed, that the alternative printing includes “recording image data amounting to one page on a plurality of the substitute recording media such that each of the plurality of the substitute recording media has one of a plurality of parts forming the image data amounting to one page.”

The outstanding Office Action relies upon Ogura to describe a memory card and ID codes.² Ogura describes an image forming apparatus that is capable of totalizing the number of image forming operations.³ Ogura does not specifically discuss image formation, and does not disclose or suggest the claimed “an image forming part configured to carry out an image formation by recording image data amounting to one page on a plurality of the substitute recording media such that each of the plurality of the substitute recording media has one of a plurality of parts forming the image data amounting to one page.”

Thus, a person of ordinary skill in the art could not properly combine Kakutani and Ogura to arrive at the invention defined by Claim 1.

In view of the above-noted comments, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and any claims dependent thereon) patentably distinguish over Kakutani and Ogura taken alone or in proper combination. Claims 10, 19, 20, 22, and 23 recite elements analogous to those of Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 10, 19, 20, 22, and

¹ Kakutani, abstract.

² Office Action, page 4.

³ Ogura, col. 1, lines 63-67.

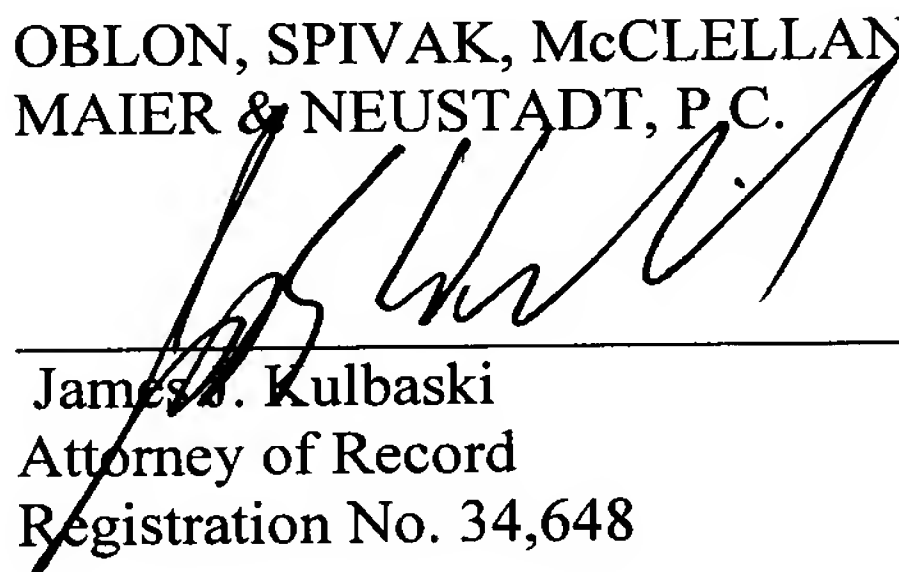
23 (and any claims dependent thereon) patentably distinguish over Kakutani and Ogura, for at least the reasons stated for Claim 1.

Addressing each of the further rejections, each of the further rejections is also traversed by the present response as no teachings in any of the further cited references to Yoshino can overcome the above-noted deficiencies of Kakutani and Ogura. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that those rejections be withdrawn for similar reasons as discussed above.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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